

### **REMARKS**

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 through 4 have been canceled. Of these claims 1, 2 and 4 were rejected as anticipated by the reference to Bleam, U.S. 1,908,727. That issue does not require consideration in view of the cancellation of the claims 1 through 4.

The remaining claims requiring consideration are 5 through 7, 10 and 11. These claims have been rejected as obvious and unpatentable over a combination of Bleam and Noizet, U.S. 4,608,892 or Ahrndt, U.S. 2,492,824.

The Bleam reference uses air stream on a single flight of the saw coupled with scrapers 20 above the air jets and a wood block member 43 below the air jets. All of these components are required for a single flight of the saw blade because of the use of air as opposed to Applicant's water jets. Air does not have the density or mass to effectively dislodge the sticky meat particles from the teeth of a blade moving at high velocity. Much of the debris removed from the blade is blown around within the saw cabinet or housing and adheres to some other surface. Gravity alone is not effective in directing the airborne meat particles into a collection bag as Bleam claims.

Noizet relates to a system of water and detergent spraying jets that have no relation to the flights of the saw blade but instead are disposed outside of the path of the saw blades or on rotating spray propellers 12. Also the arrangement is for use with a stationary blade after sawing operation has ended, not for cleaning during the meat cutting operation.

Ahrndt has nothing to do with either air or water sprays. It uses scrapers 84 which are referred to in one sentence of the eleven columns in the patent specification. At column 7 beginning at line 41 states "Combined saw scrapers and backer 84, 84, Fig. 2, may be mounted

on the center plate 14 to wipe off bone dust or other particles from the saw and provide backings for the saw to prevent buckling or bowing of the saw during use.”

At best the resultant combination of Bleam and Arhndt would be to have Bleam modified so that scrapers are positioned on both the downward and upward flights of the blade. This is the only combination suggested by the references and in no way begins to suggest the combination claimed by Applicant.

A man skilled in the art would not be led to any combination of Bleam with a single air jet and Noizet's multiple water jet arrangement for cleaning a saw when the saw blade is stopped. Similarly, Arhndt's scrapers added to both flights of the saw blade of Bleam do not suggest Applicant's claimed combination.

Applicant has devised and claims a meat cutting saw blade cleaning arrangement suitable for use during the meat cutting operation in which water jets are directed at opposite sides of the downward cutting blade flight and the upwardly moving return flight of the blade.

Both independent claims 5 and 10 require pairs of nozzles to be associated with both a downwardly moving cutting flight of a blade and an upwardly moving return flight of the blade. There is no suggestion in Bleam and Noizet or Arhndt for the combination claimed by Applicant and suggested by the Examiner.

The allowance of claims 5, 6, 7, 10 and 11 are requested since they are directed to combinations which are not suggested in any of the references attempted to be applied in the

rejection of the claims. Also, linking claims 7 and 10 if allowed should result in the examination or allowance of claims 8, 9 and 12.

Respectfully submitted,



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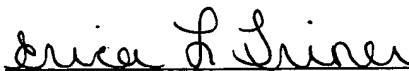
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